



Braidwood Garlic Growers Co-op Ltd

Braidwood Garlic Board Buzz

September 2019

Dear Members

Your board, elected January 2019, continues to respect the decision of the previous board not to publish the minutes of Board meetings. However, we recognise that members have a desire to know what the board is doing on their behalf, hence this newsletter.

Your Board continues to meet monthly to discuss how best to progress the interests of your Co-op. We believe we have made significant progress. Our current focus is:

1. Establishing the Braidwood Garlic brand in the marketplace – Garlic for discerning garlic lovers (from our Plan). We have established clients and a number of new leads for selling our 2019 crop.
2. We sent our first survey for the year. Thanks to those who responded. The information from the surveys this year will ensure that we have sufficient garlic to meet our clients' needs. We will send a further survey closer to harvest.
3. We have re-established the 'Co-op Garlic Plot' in the Braidwood Paddock and continue to monitor its progress. Your Board plan to offer the garlic from this plot as seed for members. Members should indicate to Wendy if they are interested in bulbils from the Dunganski.
4. We are in contact with NSW Fair Trade to ensure correct governance
5. Our budget for the financial year 2019-2020 has been completed and will be monitored as we progress through the year. We have redrawn the predictions from the BraidGarlic Plan to be more in keeping with our reality for the next five years. The budget and plan will be available at the AGM on 19 October 2019 – see below for more information.
6. We are looking at ways to value add and experimenting with various possibilities. We plan to make the results available to members on our website.
7. Seek a forum for availability of seed garlic for members, also anticipated to be on our website.
8. Maintain links with advisory organisations: Co-ops NSW, AGIA, Landcare, Farming Together
9. Continue our connection with our community through our Festival and other events. We expect to participate in the Braidwood Festival again this year and are actively looking at how we can best contribute.
10. We have begun to build the members only section of our website to offer information and advice to members. Members are encouraged to contribute information they may have on: growing garlic (including pictures) and methods for value adding garlic. It should become a well-used hub of information for all of us.
11. We continue to connect with members through our publications.

Please note: the Annual General Meeting of the Braidwood Garlic Growers Co-op Ltd has been set for 19 October 2019 at the Braidwood Services Club, please keep this date free, it is important that members attend and contribute.

Your Board 2019:

Phil Shoemark	-- Chair
Dave Ellis	-- Treasurer
Gerogina Bynes	-- Interim Director
David Dawes	-- Director
Liz Peschler	-- Director
Wendy Hutton	-- Director